



CONNECTIONS

College of Education and Human Services

• Nursing

Jason Arndt, a student in the College's online nursing program has been on active duty in Iraq as a flight nurse since June, 06. As part of his daily duties, Jason cares for wounded soldiers during flights from Iraq to Germany. Despite his military service commitments, he has managed to progress through his educational program without missing a single due date. Jason is just one example of a professional who has been able to maintain employment commitments and further his education at MSUM.

Jane Bergland co-authored two recently published articles. The first one, "Diabetes Lay Educator Case Study: One Woman's Experience Working with the Hispanic Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers." was published in the Journal of Cultural Diversity. The second, published in The Official Journal of the Rural Nurse Organization is entitled, "The Perceptions of Diabetes Lay Educators Working with Migrant Farmworkers."

The Center for Health Policy Research and Ethics (CHPRE) has awarded a research fellowship to Dr. Barb Matthees of Nursing for her proposal, Government Support for Simulations in Nursing Education in Rural Areas, as part of the 2006-2007 Policy Research Mentorship Program of the Washington Health Policy Institute.

For the past 5 years, Jane Bergland has brought capstone nursing students to Nicaragua with a medical team to provide healthcare primarily to women and children of the region. The medicines the team brings to the country that they do not use are then left at the health care facility in Nicaragua. So far, 22 undergraduate students and three graduate students have participated in the effort. Watch for poster presentations of the students' experiences at the Student Academic Conference in April.

• Social Work

Child welfare agencies throughout the country find it challenging to recruit and retain child welfare staff to work in family preservation, child protection, adoption and foster care programs. In response to this crisis, MSUM, as a part of a five school BSW consortium along with the University of Minnesota, has awarded stipends to 19 child welfare students through a Title IV-E training grant. All of MSUM's 19 child welfare students have interned or will be interning at county or approved contracted agencies. Ten child welfare students have graduated since the first applicants were awarded stipends in Spring, 2005. Of the ten, eight have secured employment in county welfare agencies or approved contracted agencies.

The School of Social Work is collaborating with the Art department and the greater community in bringing, *Portraits of Home: Families in Search of Shelter in Greater Minnesota* to the Roland Dille Center for the Arts gallery from November 6-29. In addition to the documentary photo exhibit, there will be a community panel discussion, soup supper, a film, a food drive and a "sleep out" held during the month to create awareness of the issues surrounding homelessness.

• Education

Dr. Solveig Bartz recently completed a four-year longitudinal study working with middle-level and older students with reading and writing difficulties. After four years of remediation, sixteen of the twenty students went on to successfully graduate high school. Bartz indicated that it was more difficult to address reading difficulties with the older students because they were less willing to connect with and receive assistance from the researcher. Bartz is now looking at opportunities to extend this research to elementary students.

Steve Grineski had two articles published in the Autumn 2005 issue of "The Teacher Educator." These articles formed the basis for a forum about reforming K-12 schooling and teacher education. The first article was titled "Misidentified problems and mistaken solutions: A response to the Teaching at Risk: A Call to Action Report." The second article was written in response to the Teaching Commission's critique and titled "Fundamental disagreements: A rejoinder to The Teaching Commission's response to misidentified problems and mistaken solutions."

Learn Online!

Educational Leadership

Contact: Denny VanBerkum
vanberku@mnstate.edu

Special Education

Individuals wishing to add an additional area of special education licensure to a current licensure.
Contact: Britt Ferguson
fergub@mnstate.edu

Foundations/Math

Individuals who have a Math degree & want to become Math teachers
Contact: Tim Harms
harms@mnstate.edu

New Program Approved!

K-12 Teachers of Reading,
For more information
contact:
Peggy Rittenhouse
rittenps@mnstate.edu

Professor Doris Walker-Dalhouse and her students are working with St. John's Episcopal Church, to create opportunities for Sudanese children to address literacy skills through a community-based reading clinic. Through this effort, preservice teachers will provide valuable literacy instruction to participating children while gaining experience in assessing and interpreting reading performance, employing research based instructional strategies, providing a balanced reading program of literacy instruction and using assessment data in instructional planning to address literacy needs. "It is through working with others that we can find solutions that not only help children meet their potential, but also help provide learning experiences to our emerging educators," said Dr. Doris Walker-Dalhouse.

The after school reading clinic is being funded through a two year, \$60,000 grant from the Otto Bremer Foundation.

• **Alumni Recognition**

Hazel Houkom, 1983 Elementary Education graduate, was one of six distinguished alumni honored at the MSUM Homecoming Awards Banquet in September, 2006. Hazel taught in the West Fargo Public Schools for 23 years. In 1994, she was one of 95 teachers in the nation who received the national Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science and received a \$10,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

• **For Your Calendar**

On Thursday, February 15th, Julie Landsman, author of *A White Teacher Talks about Race* will be visiting the campus. This event is funded by the Comstock Fund for the College of Education and open to the public. Landsman will present a keynote address to faculty, staff and students, visit individual classrooms and interact with small groups of students and faculty members.

The College of Education and Human Services of Minnesota State University Moorhead is dedicated to providing the best education possible to our students. If you would like to know more about our College, please visit our website at www.mnstate.edu/edhuman.

Learn how you can help insure the College's future by visiting www.mnstate.edu/edhuman/legacy.html.

*Minnesota State University Moorhead is an equal opportunity educator & employer and is a member of the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities System.
This information will be made available in alternate format, such as Braille, large print or audio cassette tape,
upon request by contacting Disability Services at 218.477.5859 (voice) or 1.800.627.3529 (MRS/TTY).*